

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 /136 R

DRAFTED BY EB/O /ST :JSSPIRO:LPP
APPROVED BY EB/OT/STA:JSSPIRO
EB/OT:SEAHMAD
EA/J:EFEATHERSTONE
STR:RHEIMLICH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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GENEVA PASS DAS BARRACLOUGH; COPENHAGEN PASS ASST.SEC. KATZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: CB RADIOS - JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WILL REQUEST
CONSULTATIONS UNDER GATT ARTICLE XIX

REF: STATE 78895

1. ON APRIL 6 COMMERCIAL MINISTER KAWAHARA AND MR. TANABE
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OF THE JAPANESE EMBASSY DELIVERED TO ACTING DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHARON AHMAD THE NOTE REPRODUCED
BELOW. IT NOTIFIES THE U.S. GOVERNMENT THAT THE GOJ WILL
REQUEST CONSULTATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XIX FOLLOWING THE
U.S. DECISION TO INCREASE TARIFFS ON CB RADIOS (SEE
REFTEL). TANABE SAID THE FORMAL REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS
WILL BE DELIVERED IN GENEVA AFTER THE TARIFF INCREASE

TAKES PLACE. (THIS IS EXPECTED EARLY IN THE WEEK OF APRIL 10.) TANABE INTIMATED THAT THE GOJ MIGHT BE SEEKING COMPENSATION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MTN NEGOTIATIONS. MRS. AHMAD SUGGESTED THAT AS THERE WERE SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A THREE YEAR DEGRESSIVE TARIFF ACTION UNDER ARTICLE XIX AND PERMANENT TARIFF REDUCTIONS, THE MTN DID NOT SEEM THE APPROPRIATE CONTEXT IN WHICH TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND, IN CONNECTION WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO RAISE THE TARIFF ON THE IMPORTS OF CB TRANSCEIVER RADIOS, HAS THE HONOR TO STATE THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN.

1. OUR VIEWS ON THIS ISSUE ARE EXPLAINED IN THE STATEMENT SENT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON MARCH 17, 1978. WHILE THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAS OFTEN REQUESTED THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES NOT TO TAKE RECOURSE TO RESTRICTIVE MEASURES ON THE IMPORT OF CB TRANSCEIVER RADIOS, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, ON MARCH 28, 1978, MADE ITS DETERMINATION TO RAISE TARIFFS FOR 3 YEARS. IN OUR VIEW, THIS RETROGRESSES FROM THE IDEALS OF ELIMINATING PROTECTIONISM AND CONTRIBUTING TOWARD A STABILIZED EXPANSION OF THE WORLD ECONOMY, TO WHICH BOTH THE U.S. AND JAPAN ARE DIRECTED. THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE DETERMINATION, DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE JAPANESE CB TRANSCEIVER INDUSTRY IS EXPECTED TO BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE DECREASE IN EXPORTS CAUSED BY THE DECISION.

2. THEREFORE, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO REQUEST CONSULTATIONS ON THIS ISSUE UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE GATT, AND INTENDS TO TAKE NECESSARY MEASURES, SUCH AS THE REQUEST FOR COMPENSATION, ETC., IN THE EVENT THAT THE TARIFF IS ACTUALLY RAISED. END TEXT. VANCE

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